**LDA Minutes May 8, 2015**

1. Meeting was held virtually from May 8-10.

2. Treasurer’s report: $2,370.61. Holly commented that last year at this time we were around $3200.  Nothing to panic about, but something to consider as we budget our upcoming ribbon purchases, insurance renewal, purchase of shirts, next show facility, etc.

Kimberly responded to the lower budget with the comment that the lower number is due to awards and support for the Girls in Regionals.  Perhaps we should think of a summer fund raising idea!

3. Feedback from the last show:

- Footing was a bit deep... Patrick has been advised not to over fluff the arena next time!   
Couldn't have asked for a better day! (Kimberly)

- Stall and the warm-up area were perfect.  (Carly)

- The tent seemed to spook several horses. Perhaps next time don’t put it up – the trees provide shade for the day by around 1000 and then there is no need for the tent. (Rainie)

- Kimberly & Patrick are wonderful hosts. I love the property!  I did notice the footing, but it did not seem to slow down Bellini at all--well, let me put it this way, if it did slow her down, then . . . Thank you, God! Not sure if it was the tent, itself, which is usually there at most shows, or the blowing tablecloth that was causing horses to spook.  (Sara)

- Thank you Kimberly and Patrick for hosting.  Your home is so lovely and we are lucky to have you!  The main concern seems to be the deeper footing.  Kimberly - I heard there were ideas being tossed around about rolling the ring to compact it a little?  What does Patrick think about that?  It was better than December, and heaven knows we can't control the weather - I'm just trying to think about how to pack it down?  As for the tent - I tend to think it was the blowing tablecloth.  It looked lovely, but had movement under shadow.  I think it was that rather than the tent, but who knows what goes on in little horsey brains.  (Holly)

- Another thing to consider about this show was that it was a smaller show. We had 39 rides I believe. This is compared to a norm of 55-65.  While I appreciate a shorter day, we do need to think about our finances. If we don't make much on the shows, we will have to drastically cut back the awards banquet funding.  For our next show we need an advertising plan to bump up the numbers. (Holly)

- At the show I found the footing deep for my horse.  The comments on my test supported that he was struggling to stay "up" in front.  He did not mind the tent or table.  I think the farm is lovely and I am sure Patrick will figure out what to do. (Karin)

- Nice day, nice place. Low attendance. Kate Waterford missing? was at 4-H?  Suggestions: Check  our future show dates for max. attendance. Advertise more on Facebook (not just our page but other groups) Advertise at tack/feed stores and Horse and Pony.  Concession stand was nice to have. But it's a small show so I hope they made some $ and would be interested in coming back.  (Rita)

4. New shirts –

- I love love the new shirts!  Thought we all looked great in them!!   I would like to order some more in other colors! Kelly let us know how much for members to order more. (Kimberly)

- The new LDA shirts are great.  Personally, I would love one in long sleeves (because I'm weird like that!).  I'm curious though as to what the thought is on more shirts.  Are we thinking ahead to award banquet shirts for volunteers?  For sale?  I don't think we have the money to order more right now with the need for ribbons and insurance. (Holly)

- I like my shirt, would like long sleeves too and more colors. (Karin)

- Kimberly addressed Holly’s comment - Members would need to order shirts for themselves, not LDA purchasing. Kelly will get back with us on pricing.  And inquire on long sleeve shirts as well.

- Like them. Also liked Kimberly's idea of ability of individuals to order. (Rita)

5. Clinics. The clinic with Karen Abbitista had the following reviews:

- Clinic was awesome!! I vote to have her back – I got very good tips and have been working to implement them. Very helpful. (Rainie)

- Absolutely LOVED the clinic.  Would love to see Karen back again. (Susan)

- Loved the 4/26 Clinic & hope Karen returns for another. (Sara)

- Everyone seemed really pleased with Karen Abbatista and interested in riding with her again.  She was affordable and got great feedback. If you'd like, I'd be happy to get another clinic date from her. (Holly)

- I audited. Good feedback. Let's have her back again. Maybe I'll ride too! Stafford is a nice place. (Rita)

6. New Business – to be discussed at June meeting.

- Show Prizes: we need more variety and new stuff. Suggest also getting new sponsors and have tack/feed stores donate prizes.

- Suggest a grant committee this summer and apply to some grants. We might need the extra money if we plan to have Jane Savoie back this fall and budget for other stuff. Also if we are planning on having Jane Savoie back we should setup a committee for that too. I volunteer to be on it.

- Possible fundraiser ideas and implementation.

7. Next meeting will be held on June 7, 2015 at 3:00 pm at Rainie’s house – 4756 Reece Road, Plant City. We will watch a Jane Savoie Video lesson before the meeting.

Submitted by: Rainie Dasch, LDA Secretary